

## STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

### Agenda Consideration

**TOPIC:** Award of Contract: Piano - MVHS    **ITEM NO.:** 13M

**PREPARED BY:** Scott Horan,  
Executive Director  
Planning & Construction

Andre' A. Nougaret,  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Support Services

**MEETING:** September 13, 2005  
**ACTION DATE:** September 13, 2005

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**ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT:** That the School Board approve award of a contract (Option #1) in the amount of \$54.4K to Jordon Kitts Music of 9520 Baltimore Blvd College Park, Maryland 20740 for the purchase of a grand piano to support the choral program at Mountain View High School

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#### KEY POINTS:

1. Mountain View High School construction is currently 99% complete and opened on September 6, 2005
2. Included in the startup of all SCPS high schools is the procurement of furniture, equipment, and other supplies/items required to properly equipping the school to meet its approved educational mission. Included in the startup requirement for Mountain View High School is the procurement of several piano's including a grand piano.
3. Current inventory and condition of pianos at each high school:

	<u>Type</u>	<u>Condition</u>
a. SHS	Kawai Steinway Grand	Poor Excellent (refurbished)
b. NSHS	Kawai Grand Yamaha Upright	Good (repaired 2004) Poor
c. CFHS	Young Chang Grand 3 - Kawai Grand	Poor Poor
d. BPHS	Wurlitzer Grand	Poor
e. MVHS	Proposed Steinway Grand 3 – Digital	N/A N/A
4. School and Central Office Instruction staff strongly supports the purchase of a grand piano vice a smaller "baby" grand piano. "Baby" grand pianos are typically more suited/recommended for homes or small ensembles. Staff feels due to the size of the

choral programs (100 – 200 voices) and the size of our high school auditorium a “baby” grand is not adequate and cannot be heard. A grand piano provides the required performance capability. Staff also feels the quality of a piano is critical and therefore are supporting the procurement of a Steinway. Steinway designs are patented and therefore no other piano is built like a Steinway, they are known worldwide not only for their excellent musicality, but also for their durability. Steinway pianos are also built to be “re-built and/or refurbished” and their performance life extends beyond 75 years when maintained. An example of this is the Steinway piano at SHS. Other pianos in the SCPS inventory of less quality have been evaluated to be repaired/refurbished with marginal success. Most pianos are not manufactured to withstand the rigors of instructional use. Steinways are, and are used by school systems at both the intermediate and college level with great success. Maintenance service calls for pianos purchased for the start up of past high schools have been frequent. This is attributed to poor quality. While Steinways are initially more expensive, staff feels they are by far the cheapest pianos to purchase over the long-term.

5. Proposed options for MVHS piano procurement are:

- a. Option #1 – Steinway Grand Piano     \$54.4K
- b. Option #2 – Yamaha Model C7         \$30.9K
- c. Option #3 – Yamaha Model C6         \$27.2K

6. If Option #1 is selected, SCPS will utilize a James Madison University contract with Jordon Kitts Music to procure the grand piano. University officials granted SCPS permission to use the contract. RFP #DM-285, Contract # JMU3439.

7. If the School Board approves the award of contract, a notice to proceed will be issued to Jordon Kitts Music in September 2005.

**SCHOOL BOARD GOAL: #5** – Provide facilities that promote student learning and and community support.

**#7** – Provide school environments where teachers are safe to teach and students are safe to learn

**FUNDING SOURCE:** VPSA – MVHS

**AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE:**     Stafford County School Board Policy 4-12  
    Stafford County School Board Policy 4-29